

BREXIT AT A GLANCE...

Weekly news, views and insights from the Welsh NHS Confederation
Tuesday, 28 May



What Happened This Week... MEP Election Special

While the National Assembly and Westminster may be in recess this week there has been several major developments in both EU and UK Parliaments. For more information on Westminster developments, please scroll down for a summary of what unfolded.

Last Thursday the UK went to the polls to elect 4 MEPs to represent Wales in the EU Parliament. **The following candidates were elected: 2 Brexit Party (Nathan Gill, James Wells), 1 Plaid Cymru (Jill Evans), 1 Labour (Jackie**

Jones).

While the media and others will be analysing the implications of the EU elections, the Welsh NHS Confederation and our stakeholders will continue to raise awareness of the key issues and priorities that our Policy Forum set out in our briefing: [Key issues for health and social care as the UK prepares to leave the EU](#). Ultimately, whatever the outcome of the Brexit process, we want to maintain the highest possible standards of care for the people of Wales.

Last Monday I gave [oral evidence](#) to the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee regarding **Follow-up work on Brexit preparedness** alongside Universities Wales. I highlighted within my evidence how health and social care organisations have been working positively and collaboratively together and that there has been significant preparations and contingency planning put in place across the sector as we head towards leaving the EU. In addition, I highlighted how communication across the system has improved, an area that the Committee had previously raised concerns around. At the moment we can give a high level of assurance that we have prepared well. However, this is an unprecedented situation, and we will continue to test and refine those preparations over the coming months.

If you have any questions about the Brexit process, please see our [FAQs](#) page for more details which have been updated today, or email any questions to brexitfaqs@welshconfed.org. Please visit [our website](#) for more information and resources on current developments.

Nesta Lloyd-Jones,
Interim Director, Welsh NHS Confederation



Welsh NHS Confed

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Following



Our Interim-Director [@NestaLloydJones](#) explains how the structures we have in place to prepare for [#Brexit](#) in Wales have been effective to the [@SeneddEAL](#) yesterday



Elected MEP's in Wales – The Breakdown

With a turnout in Wales of [37.3%](#), the percentage of the vote won was as follows: **Brexit Party: 32.5%; Plaid Cymru: 19.6%; Labour: 15.3%; Liberal Democrats: 13.6%; Conservatives: 6.5%; Greens: 6.3%; UKIP: 3.3%; Change UK: 2.9%.**

The Brexit Party topped the poll in 19 out of the 22 council areas, with Anglesey and Ceredigion voting for Plaid Cymru, and Cardiff has a split majority for both the Brexit Party and the Welsh Liberal Democrats.

Welsh Government News and Guidance

[Written Statement: The European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act and Common Frameworks](#)

This report details the progress made in the third reporting period (26 December 2018 to 25 March 2019) as required under schedule 3 to the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018. On the basis of this continuing joint progress and collaboration on future frameworks which ensures the statute book is ready for exit day, the UK Government has again concluded that it does not need to bring forward any section 12 regulations at this juncture. In addition, the Scottish and Welsh Governments have reaffirmed their commitment not to create divergent policy in ways that would cut across future frameworks, where it has been agreed they are necessary or where discussion continues.

[Written Statement: Joint Ministerial Committee \(European Negotiations\)](#)

Jeremy Miles, AM, Counsel General and Brexit Minister, gave an update on the 9 May Joint Ministerial Committee (EU Negotiations).

For further information, please see the [Preparing Wales for a no-deal Brexit](#) website and [click here](#) for more information on Health and Social Care sector planning for a no-deal Brexit.

National Assembly News

Elin Jones has [written](#) to Mark Reckless confirming that the Brexit Party meets the requirements to form a group in the National Assembly for Wales. This decision means that the four Brexit Party AMs (Mark

Reckless, Mandy Jones, Caroline Jones and David Rowlands) will now be able to access more resources and be given more opportunity to question ministers.

[Brexit Update \(23 May\)](#)

Senedd Research publishes a fortnightly Brexit update, for the Assembly's External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee, on the latest government, parliament, EU and other relevant announcements and reports on Brexit.

[Brexit: A Legislation Update \(17 May\)](#)

With Article 50 having been recently extended so that the UK will leave the EU by 31 October 2019, it is timely to look at where things stand with Brexit-related legislation, and what might happen in the coming months.

[Negotiations on the UK leaving the EU during the EU extension period](#)

Commons Library research briefing

Background on how we got to the Article 50 extension and what the Government has been doing during the extension period

[Monday 20 May: External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee](#)

Evidence Session: [Follow-up work on Brexit preparedness](#). Oral evidence to be given by Nesta Lloyd-Jones Interim Director of the Welsh NHS Confederation. Alongside the Welsh Local Government Association and Universities Wales.

[Tuesday 21 May: **FMQs**](#)

Will the First Minister provide an update on discussions with the UK Government regarding Brexit? **(Lynne Neagle, Torfaen)**

News and Reports

EU Elections

[Brexit Party tops poll in Wales](#)

Nigel Farage's Brexit Party gained two Welsh MEPs after a sweeping victory in the European elections in Wales, winning in 19 of the 22 council areas. Plaid Cymru kept its MEP, coming second, with third-placed Labour taking the fourth seat, ahead of the Lib Dems. The Tories lost their seat and dropped to fifth in the vote, just ahead of the Green Party, UKIP and Change UK.

[Mark Drakeford backs Remain in new Brexit referendum](#)

First Minister Mark Drakeford has said there should be another referendum before Britain leaves the EU.

[Labour EU election position was 'too complicated'](#)

First Minister Mark Drakeford has said Welsh Labour's position in the European elections was "too complicated".

[Ex-Welsh minister quits Labour and votes Green](#)

An ex-Welsh Government minister has quit the Labour Party and voted for the Greens, labelling his former party a "pro-Brexit anti-Semitic shambles".

[Who are Wales' newly-elected MEPs?](#)

The four winning candidates have been named to represent Wales in the European Parliament. However, it remains to be seen if they will take their seats and how long they will sit, depending on how Brexit goes.

[Historic result as Plaid Cymru beat Labour Party in Wales](#)

PLAID Cymru – the Party of Wales – may have come second to [Nigel Farage's Brexit Party](#) in the Euro poll, but for the first time they knocked [Labour](#) into third place with 19.6% of the vote compared to Labour's 15.3%.

[European Elections: What they tell us about support for Brexit](#)

There were two largely separate battles taking place in the European elections in the UK. The first was for the support of those who voted Leave in the 2016 referendum, many of whom are disappointed that the UK has not yet left the EU. The second was for the backing of those who voted Remain, many of whom are hoping that the decision to leave the EU might yet be reversed, perhaps via a second referendum.

[European elections 2019: Key points at a glance](#)

A quick guide to the key points of the 2019 European Parliament elections in the UK.

[Brexit Party: Reckless warns stopping group will backfire](#)

Changing rules to stop the Brexit Party being officially recognised in the Welsh Assembly would be counter-productive, the group's designated leader has said.

[Monmouth MP David Davies called a liar amid rise in threats](#)

David Davies says he uses a body camera because of the abuse he gets.

Tory Leadership Contest

[Theresa May resignation: Prime minister had 'almost impossible job'](#)

Theresa May had an "almost impossible job" as prime minister, former Welsh secretary Stephen Crabb has said.

[Jeremy Hunt warns against no-deal Brexit 'suicide'](#)

Tory leadership candidate Jeremy Hunt has warned that his party will be committing "political suicide" if it tries to push through a no-deal Brexit. The foreign secretary is one of 10 people seeking to replace Theresa May.

[Theresa May: Who will be the next prime minister](#)

Conservative MPs are throwing their hats into the ring to become the next Tory leader and prime minister, after Theresa May announced she would be stepping down on 7 June.

[Something has Changed](#)

Nicolas Webb reflects on Theresa May's leadership, and the challenges facing the Conservative Party

Brexit Frequently Asked Questions

We have updated our Brexit on **24 May** to include questions concerning a returning UK national, details about the Settled Status Scheme (including the App and document scanning locations), as well as details of how clinical trials will be impacted.

Visit the [FAQs page](#) to get the latest version as it's updated and send in any questions to BrexitFAQs@welshconfed.org

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Yn arwain Gwasanaethau
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Managing Brexit / EU withdrawal in health and social care in Wales: Frequently asked questions

UK Government & NHS England Resources

Overview from Westminster

On Monday (20 May) a [Delegated Legislation Committee](#) considered a statutory instrument which amends 'exit day' in UK law from 11pm on 12 April 2019 to 31 October 2019 at 11pm. If the Withdrawal Agreement is ratified before 31 October 2019 the extension would be terminated at an earlier date.

On Wednesday in Westminster Hall there was a debate on '[Negotiations on the UK leaving the EU during the EU extension period](#)', followed by an [almost hour long PMQ session](#) which started many rumours flying in Westminster about what the Prime Minister's next move would be. [This was followed by the decision not to publish the draft Withdrawal Agreement Bill \(WAB\)](#) which was originally planned to be released on 24 May, which in turn meant that there will be a delay in the promised votes originally diarised for the week of 3 June.

Then came the news on Friday of [Theresa May's resignation](#), where she confirmed she will step down as leader of the Conservative and Unionist Party as of June 7. The news of her resignation has sparked a rush in candidates to replace her, which as of now stands at 10 confirmed candidates.

Guidance

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they are necessary.

[Euratom exit: quarterly update, January to March 2019](#)

Brexit page on [UK Government](#) providing information about EU Exit including the article 50 process, negotiations, and announcements about policy changes as a result of EU Exit, such as the [Prepare for EU Exit Campaign](#).

Settled Status

[EU Settlement Scheme: ID document scanner locations](#)

Locations where you can go to get your biometric ID document scanned if you do not have an Android device with near field communication (NFC).

[NHS England](#) Preparing for EU Exit page where you can find Guidance and correspondence, which includes [continuity of medicine supply frequently asked questions](#). [Labour mobility and employment within the EU](#)

A [new study from the EU Parliament](#) analyses the impact on labour mobility and employment of the 2013 revision of the Professional Qualifications Directive and related EU initiatives. It examines trends in mobility and recognition, focussing on the health sector, with case studies from four countries - Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Romania. The [study](#) highlights areas of best practice and outlines where further action is needed.

[eHealth in the EU](#)

Further to its aim to provide citizens access to safe and top-quality digital services in health and care, the European Commission's ehealth stakeholder group – an expert group which advises the Commission on ehealth policy – [has published a series of recommendations designed to progress the uptake of ehealth across the European Union](#).

[Negotiations on the UK leaving the EU during the EU extension period](#)

Background on how we got to the Article 50 extension and what the

Government has been doing during the extension period

Looking Ahead

Whitsun Recess for the UK Parliament and Assembly 27 May – 2 June

Upcoming Events

**As part of the NHS Confederation conference: [1.7 Brexit – What now?](#)
19th June, 11:30-12:30pm, Confed19**

Chaired by Dr Layla McCay, Director of International Relations, NHS Confederation, this session will be speaking at the Confed19 Conference where she will address the most pertinent challenges, opportunities, and questions for the NHS associated with Brexit. It will provide key information, and include opportunities for interactivity with a diverse panel of experts from the Brexit Health Alliance, NHS and others. The detail of this session will be directed by the evolving political situation, ensuring that the session provides the most current view. To book please [click here](#).



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Our mailing address is:

Welsh NHS Confederation

8

Cathedral Road

Cardiff, Wales CF11 9JL

United Kingdom

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